

# IN THE BEGINNING



Chief George Jenson Sanford Rogers, Sr.  
1872-1964

Photo taken while serving as Principal Chief of the Western Cherokee Nation,  
Oklahoma, in complete formal Head Dress.

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## IN THE BEGINNING

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April, 1988

While hundreds of us have enjoyed reading the "IN THE BEGINNING" for years, I'm not sure we've always shown our appreciation enough, for the work of love Lester has done. There is a committee of several people trying to keep it going and realizing it's a lot of work and time consuming.

We welcome suggestions for articles. Someone requested a list of charter members still living and these are listed in this issue. Next issue we will include Life Members. This will give you a chance to become one before the next issue in July. Certificates are being mailed now to some new ones for this year. If you feel we've made a mistake on either of these lists let us know and we'll check it out.

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We have held two Historical Society Meetings since last publication. On January 26, Vice President Faye Hibbard conducted the business meeting. I believe we had 39 members and 8 visitors present to hear Clyde Toland from Iola tell about writing his family history.

On March 22, Kenneth Stockebrand and wife had returned from winter in Texas so President Kenneth conducted the meeting. The Program was Linda Call, Executive Director of the Woodson County Chamber of Commerce telling all the interesting projects the Chamber is working on including the Ninth Annual Yates Center Day. Dinner was served to 56 members and guests. We will be needing volunteers to keep the museum open this summer.

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## IN MEMORIAM

Alice Stockebrand 93 September 16, 1986

Alice was born in Yates Center. She was a Charter Member of the Woodson County Historical Society.

Victor Dale Stockebrand 68 October 7, 1987

Victor made his home in Littleton, Colo. He was a Life Member of the Woodson County Historical Society.

Lulu Belle (Briles) Cope 87 October 8, 1987

Lulu was eight when she moved to Woodson County and she spent the rest of her life here. She was a Charter Member of the Woodson County Historical Society.

Leo Patrick Collins 90 October 8, 1987

Leo was born in Piqua and spent his entire life around the Piqua area. He was a Charter Member of the Woodson County Historical Society.

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## COVER STORY:

John Rogers of Ireland and his wife Mary Booth of Lower Parish, Isle of Wight Co., Va. were the parents of William Rogers b. 1657 Surry Co. Va.; d. 8 Jan. 1725 Surry Co., Va.; md. 6 Jan. 1687 Surry Co., Va.; to Elizabeth Cartwright, daughter of Robert Cartwright of Surry Co., Va.

William and Elizabeth Cartwright Rogers, Children all born Surry Co., Va.; Benjamin, Robert J., Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah, Persilla, Joseph and Jane.

I. Benjamin Rogers, b. 1687, Surry Co., Va., d. 28 May, 1744, Albemarle Co., Va. Md. Nancy Brady and were the parents of one son; William Rogers b. 1728, Albemarle Co., Va.; md. 1773 Forsyth Co., Georgia to Mary Bragg and were the parents of: John J., James C., Robert J. Jr., Lucy, William.

John J. Rogers, b. 1778 Forsyth Co., Ga. D. 14 July, 1842, Forsyth Co., Ga.; md. 1803 Ga. Sarah Cordery. Children: Dr. Robert R.; Rev. William; Sen. Johnson K.; Joseph; Lovelace; Mary, Jackson; Cynthia, Annie C.; Col. Henry Co.; George W.; John P., all born in Forsyth Co., Ga.

James C. Rogers, B. 1780, Forsyth Co., Ga.: md. 1810 Forsyth Co., Ga. to Nancy Ann Cordery of Savannah, Ga. No children.

Robert J. Rogers Sr. B. 1785, Forsyth Co., Ga., d. 1827, Forsyth Co., Ga., md. 1810, Forsyth Co., Ga. to Elizabeth Cordery, b. 1785, Forsyth Co., Ga., d. 1890 Adair Co., Okla. Children all born in Forsyth Co., Ga.: Catherine, Nannie, Robert Jr., John and James.

Sarah, Nancy Ann and Elizabeth Cordery were the daughters of Thomas Cordery, b. 1763 in Normandy, France. He died in 1840 in Savannah, Ga. His wife, Sonicoorie, was a full blood Cherokee of the Savannah Clan.

Senator Johnson K. Rogers, son of John J. and Sarah Cordery Rogers, was b. 1807 in Ga., d. 1869 in Washington D.C. while serving as the 1st U.S. Sen. of Indian Blood, and is buried at Arlington Cemetery. He was married to Octavia Ann Mount.

Robert Rogers, Jr. was born 16 July, 1815 in Forsyth Co., Ga. He died 4 July, 1842, in Adair Co., Okla. He was the son of Robert J. Rogers Sr. and Elizabeth Cordery. He was married in 1835 in Ga. to Sallie Vann, who was born 28 Jan., 1818 in Forsyth Co., Ga. and died 28 May, 1882 at the Rogers Ranch in Rogers Co., Okla. She was the daughter of Avery Vann and Margaret McSwain of Georgia.

Robert Rogers, Jr. and Sallie Vann Children:

## COVER STORY (CONT.)

1. Margaret Lavinis, b. 1836 in Vinita, Okla. Md. in 1856 to A.W. Timberlake.
2. Clement Vann, b. 11 Jan., 1839 in Ft. Gibson, Okla. D. 28 Oct., 1911 in Chelsea, Okla. He was married to Mary America Schrimsher. Rogers County, Okla. is named for Clement Vann. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention for Okla. statehood in 1907. He served as Judge and Senator of the Cherokee Council from 1862 - 1899.

Clement Vann and Mary America Rogers were the parents of: Elizabeth, Allie C., Robert M, Maud E., Mary, Zoe, Homer and William Penn Adair, b. 4 Nov., 1879 in Oolagah, Okla., d. 15 Aug, 1935 in Point Barrow, Alaska. William Penn Adair Rogers was better known as "Will Rogers," Indian Humorist and Entertainer. Will was married to Betty Blake of Benton Co., Ark. Their children were: William Vann Rogers (living), Mary A., James B., Fred (all deceased). William Vann Rogers, was b. 20 Oct., 1911 in New York City. He was md. 26 May, 1941 in Las Vegas, Nev. to Collier Connell who died in June, 1976 in Calif. Will and Collier were the parents of Clem Adair, b. 1948. Clem is a detective on the police force or Tucson, Arizona. They are also the parents of Carl Connell, b. 1952, who lives in Montreal, Can. Both have one son.

Senator Clem Rogers McSpadden, was b. 9 Nov., 1925 in Okla. He is a nephew of Will Rogers, and is a former Okla. Sen. and a member of the present Cherokee Indian Council. He is the Professional Genealogist for this Rogers Branch.

2. Robert J. Rogers was b. in 1689 in Surry Co., Va. and d. 12 Dec., 1737 in Chowan Co., N. Carolina. He married Mary Ann Galloway, the dau. of Thomas Galloway and Sarah Mumford of Nash Co., N.C. Robert and Mary Ann Galloway Rogers owned 630 acres in Bertie Pre., N.C. with crops of corn and tobacco and a large orchard. Children: Robert, William, Elizabeth, Capt. John Rogers.

Capt. John Rogers was b. in 1729 in N.C. He d. in 1780 in Forsyth Co., Ga. His first wife was Elizabeth Emory, the dau. of Mary Grant and William Emory. Mary Grant was the dau. of Ludovic Grant of Scotland and his wife, Eughioote, a full blood Cherokee of the Long Hair Clan. Capt. John and Elizabeth Emory Rogers children: Charles, Mary, John Jr., Nannie.

His second wife was Anna Pruett. They had one dau., Polly Ann.

His third wife was Jennie Due. Their children were: Susan-nah, Joseph, Annie and Talihini (Tiana). Tiana was b. in 1800 in Forsyth Co., Ga. and she died in 1830 in Ft. Gibson, Okla. Her first husband was David Gentry and her second was Gen. Sam Houston.

## COVER STORY (CONT.)

John Rogers, Jr. was b. in 1789 in Forsyth Co., Ga. and d. in 1859 in Tahlequah, Ind. Terr., Okla. He was married in 1816 in Cobb. Co., Ga. to Catherine Wickett, who was b. in 1793 in Cobb Co., Ga. and d. in 1865 in Tahlequah, Ind. Terr., Okla. Catherine Wickett was the dau. of Joseph Wickett and Caroline Wilkerson, and granddaughter of Jesse Onnodutu Stuart, a full blood Cherokee of the Dear Clan, who was appointed Sup. of Indian Affairs for the state of Georgia.

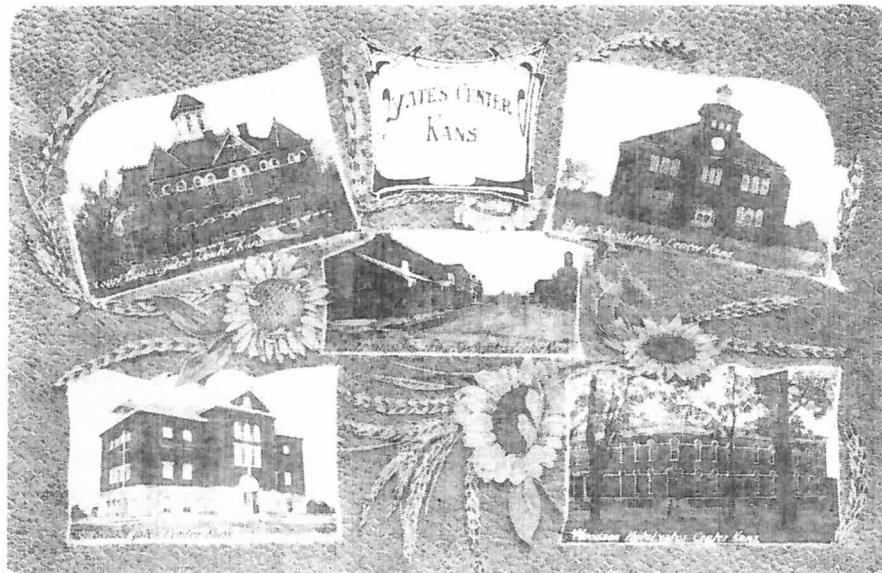
John Rogers, Jr. and Catherine Wickett made the trip on the Trail of Tears which many Cherokee and countless members of other tribes lost their lives. Their son, John Rogers, was born in 1817 in Marietta, Cobb Co., Ga., and he married Margaret Rosanna Blue, a Wyandotte Indian, who was b. west of Kansas City, Kansas on the Wyandotte Ind. Res. and removed to Okla. at an early age. John Rogers and Margaret Blue were the parents of James, Frank Sanford and John K.

Frank Sanford Rogers was b. in 1850 in Okla. and married Daisey Smith of Ada, Okla. Daisey was a Choctaw-Chickasha Indian. They ran a trading post in the Cookston Hills north of Talaquah, Okla. They were the parents of 5 sons and 2 daughters, who all attended the male and female Seminaries at Talequah and wrote and spoke in both English and Cherokee. They were the parents of George Janson Sanford Rogers Sr., b. 28 Nov., 1872 in Muldrow, Ind. Terr., Okla. and d. 31 March, 1964 in Iola, Kansas. He was Chief of the Western Cherokee Tribe for 10 years, living at Dewey, Okla. After service in WWI he lived in Superior, Neb., where he worked for the Ball Glass Co., and was a Master Mason of the Masonic Order. George J.S. Rogers was md. in 1917 in Superior, Neb. to Jessie M. Crum, who was b. 20 July, 1899. Jessie was the dau. of Peter F. Crum and Isabella R. Shaw of Chanute, Kansas. Jessie M. Crum Rogers lives in Florida. Children: George J.S., Jr., Indianola, Wm. F., Jessie, Edna R., Eleanor Q., Odessa, Roy K and Edgar L. They lived 20 years in Woodson County, Kansas.

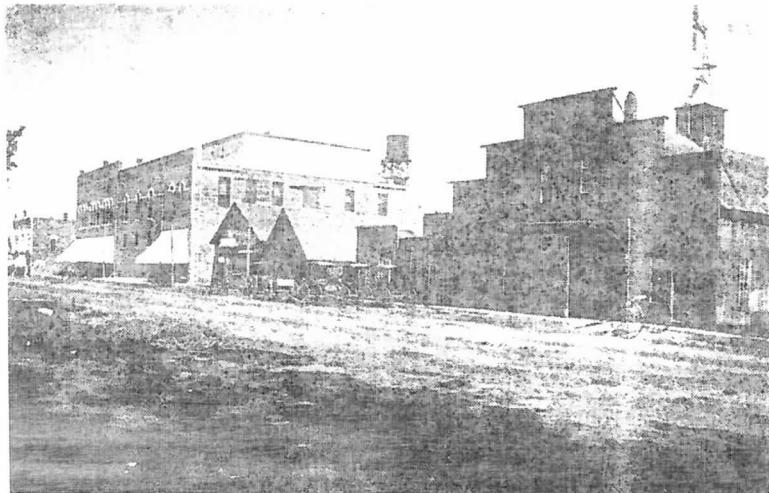
Edna R. Rogers md. Fred E. Blevins, son of Robert F. and Frankie Yoakum Blevins of Toronto, Kansas. Children: Bernie, Gayla R., Mary L. and Robert E., all of Yates Center, Kans. Gayla R. and Mary L. are life members of the Woodson County Historical Society, with Mary as a present member of the Board of Directors.

Gayla R. Blevins is the Professional Genealogist for this Rogers branch, and provided the information for this article. 3. Joseph Rogers was b. in 1700 in Surry Co., Va. and d. 18 Feb., 1752 in Northampton Co., Va. He md. Sarah ?. They lived in Surry Co., Va. Children: John, Joseph Jr., Aaron, Isom, Reuben, Mary, Drury, Michael, Sarah and Faith.

These are the ancestors of Senator Clu Gulager: Clue Gulager, actor; Kay Starr, singer and actress; and Dr. Reba Collins, all of Oklahoma. Dr. Collins was appointed in 1975 as Director of the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore, Okla., and is the Professional Genealogist for this Rogers Branch.



Copy of Post Cards sent to us by Clara Mulsow Davis.



East Side South Main looking towards Rutledge.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!

### WARREN & SADIE BLACK MARRIED 76 YEARS

It was 78 years ago that Warren Black, then 19 years old, gave the first Valentine to Sadie Hinderliter, also 19.

They had started going together in September and by the time Valentine's Day came around, Warren knew he wanted to do something extra special for Sadie. Warren recalls how he and Ed Wilson went to George Bigg's drug store looking for Valentines for their girlfriends.

"We found these big lacy hearts in boxes about nine or ten inches square. They were real pretty but they cost 50 cents a piece. He had just two of them. You know, 50 cents was a lot of money back in 1910 but we bought them anyway," Warren recalls with dancing eyes and a big grin. "I'm sure glad you bought them," Biggs told us. "I've had them for a long time and they are so expensive I didn't think I'd ever sell them."

"That Valentine had a lot of lace on it. When my dad saw it he said it had enough lace to make a baby's dress," Warren chuckles with delight as he remembers.

Neither Warren or Sadie remember what the Valentine may have said in its verse, but whatever the words, they must have expressed his feelings well. The couple were married Nov. 1, 1911, in the Methodist Church parsonage at Fulton, Ks.

"I remember when we got married. I had a fistful of brothers and sisters. They were just going to have a gay old time shivareeing us. We went into the church and stayed there until they gave up and went home," Sadie recalls with a giggle. "They weren't too happy about it."

The couple remember buying their wedding clothes in Fort Scott.

"I bought what I thought was a pretty good suit, new shirt, shoes, socks, hat, tie, the whole works. Guess what it cost me?" invites Warren before he answered. "Twelve dollars. We bought the whole thing for \$12. Can you believe that?"

Sadie's two-piece suit-dress cost \$8.00.

Now, over 76 years later, all prices have risen so much that Warren and Sadie look back in awe to the days when 35 cents would buy a pair of bib overalls and a \$20.00 bill would buy a brand new wagon. Bakery bread cost five cents a loaf but Sadie and nearly everyone else baked bread to save money.

"There was always so much work to do," Sadie says. "It's different. Everything is different from what it used to be."

Some of those differences she is enjoying include the gas heat in place of the wood and coal they burned when they were young newlyweds; running water in the house replacing going down the hill with a bucket, drawing water, then carrying it back up the hill; indoor plumbing replacing the frosty morning walk to the outhouse.

The Blacks established their first home on a farm near her parents a short distance east of Fulton. Warren remembers well how the farming was done.

"There weren't any tractors, no automobiles. Nobody had riding farming tools. There was no such a thing. We used walking plows, walking cultivators," Warren explains. "We had horses and mules. I can remember when they came out with the one-bottom plows. They thought that was a great invention," Warren chuckles.

Warren says it is hard to compare farming then and farming now because of the difference in money.

"Back when we were married nobody had money. There was a world of 40 acre farms. If a farmer had one team of horses, a milk cow and 40 acres he was doing pretty good," Warren explains.

The Blacks farmed in various places in Southeast Kansas until retiring from a farm near Bronson and moving to Yates Center about 25 years ago.

"Mostly we did general farming," Warren says. "We tried a lot of different things. We dairied several years. We milked 10 or 12 cows and sold the milk in 10-gallon cans."

Although about the only place a 10 gallon milk can is found now is the living room sporting a coat of paint and a pleasant farm scene, there are some things which have not changed since Warren gave Sadie that Valentine 78 years ago.

Warren's favorite food is still corn bread and beans. Warren has a keen sense of humor and is nearly always looking for the funny side of each situation. Warren always was and always will be a baseball fan and Sadie's favorite pastime continues to be reading.

He listens to the ball games on the radio, especially if Kansas City is playing, but Sadie would rather read.

One other thing that remains the same is Warren's love of the outdoors. He takes a daily stroll downtown to shop at a local market for groceries. He also does the yard work.

Though Warren and Sadie both celebrated their 96th birthdays last September, they maintain reasonably good health and are able to live in their own home by sharing the work.

A homemaker helper comes for two hours once a week to help with big cleaning jobs. Meals on wheels delivered at noon during the week helps to keep the cooking chores to a minimum. A son-in-law, Kenneth Ferree, who lives a few blocks away, drops in often.

The Blacks have one daughter, Beulah Osborn of Lamar, Co.; six grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and six great-great grandchildren. The late Maybelle Ferree was also a daughter.

Sadie, the daughter of Will and Jane Hinderliter, was the third child in a family of 12. She has two living brothers, Ralph of Waverly and Wayne of Wichita.

Warren was one of six children born to Jake and Agnes Black. Still living is a brother, Ira of Fulton and a sister, Lulu Shattuck of Prescott.

Another important thing that has not changed in the past 78 Valentine's Days is the couple's love for each other.

How do they show their love for each other?

"He knows it," Sadie says with a grin.

"We don't really think about it," Warren says very seriously. "We tell each other that every day and always have."

Will Warren give Sadie a Valentine this year or take her out to eat?

"I don't want to spend that much money on her," Warren jokes and laughs. "I don't go out much," Sadie explains. "I'm afraid of falling."

"We never did really celebrate Valentine's Day after we had a family," Warren adds.

"Mom's a real good cook. I'm the dishwasher," he quips.

"Be careful or you just might have it to do," she counters.

"We work together on most things," says Warren, serious again. "We do pretty well, I think. Of course, there were things I did as a kid that I can't do now, but it's a good life."

Sadie nods her agreement.





### **YCHS CLASS OF 1927**

Members of the YCHS Class of 1927 attending the 60th Class reunion recently were: (L-R, bottom row) Elma Ireland, Dorothy Fae Johnson, Jennie Tydeman, Julia Bennett, Trula Theobald and Edith Williams. (Second row, L-R) Clarence Mathew, Merle Ritterhouse, Katherine Powell, Willfred Lauber. (Third row, L-R) Wilbur Harder and Max Powell.

### **YCHS CLASS OF 1927**

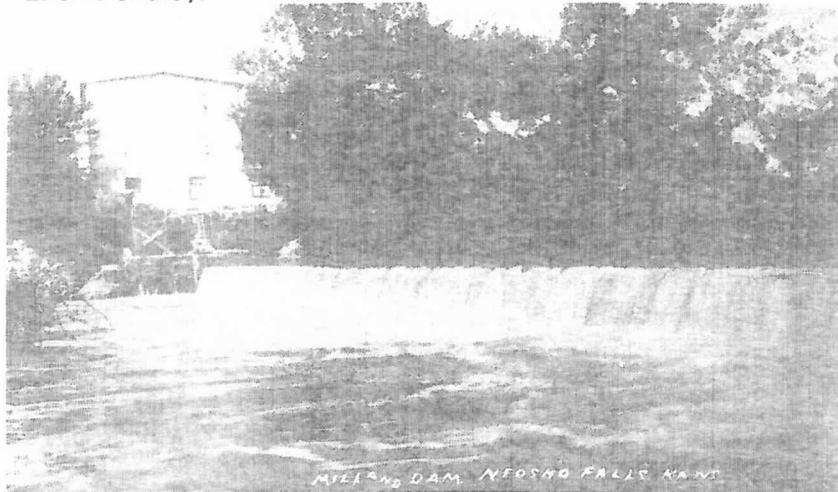
The class of 1927 of the Yates Center High School met in the afternoon on Sunday, May 24th, 1987 in the courthouse basement club room from 2 - 5 P.M. There were 12 members of the class present including one who had never been with the group since 1927. The afternoon was spent in renewing old acquaintances, visiting, looking at class pictures and reading letters from some that were unable to attend.

Those present for the 60th reunion were Wilfred Lauber and wife Katherin, from Newton; Wilbur "Buss" Harder and wife Dorothy, Lindsberg; Katherin Powell (Landis), Kansas City, MO.; Elma Ireland and husband Hale Nittler, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Dorothy Fay Johnson and husband Jack Roberts, Emporia; Julia Bennett and husband Noel Jackson, Yates Center; Clarence Mathews and wife Luriel Randall, Iola; Trula Theobald (Wagner), Salina; Edith Williams and husband Lester Harding, Yates Center; Max Powell and wife, Okla.; and Merle Ritterhouse and wife Mildred, Denver Colo.

It is believed that this was the second 60 year class reunion of the Yates Center High School.

## OTHER MEMBERS OF 1927 SENIOR CLASS:

Carl Gibson, Nelle Cannady Smith, Elizabeth Fisk Willis, Robert Logan, Vivian Greene Spencer, Mervin Lewis, Alice Cummings Cole, Henry Allen Hale, Alice Smith Soxman, Raymond Brooks, Ruth Vaughn McGuire, Mae Pendley Grey, Lewis Singleton, Chester Weide, Loretta Lynch Dutton, Clifford Abbott, Margaret Wilson Prather, Tom Daley, Esther McCormick Hodge, Arthur Toedman, Nelson Parks, Orean Briles Adams, Harold Welch, Opal Geary Manske, Dixie Mentzer, Ellen Pendley.



MILL AND DAM, NEOSHO FALLS, KANSAS

Mill and Dam, Neosho Falls, Kansas.



John F. Allen and  
Wife Mamie, 1955

## GREENUP'S SON — JOHN FRANKLIN ALLEN

John Franklin Allen, born December 22, 1889 in Yates Center, Kansas, also died April 13, 1962 in Yates Center. With the exception of his time spent in the U.S. Army, he did not stray far from his hometown where his father Greenup J. and grandfather, John C. Allen (1820 - 1859) are also buried.

John came from a family with several brothers and sisters. However, he was luckier and stronger in health than the other youngsters. He did not die from consumption. He was the youngest of the children. There is speculation that John was raised in another household because consumption had taken its toll in the family, killing father, mother and children alike in the span of a very few years. At any rate, he survived to go on to High School in Yates Center and to Kansas State Agricultural College.

A little anecdote about John's athletic talents was told to Lester A. Harding, local Woodson County historian, by Fritz C. Weide, a Yates Center resident. It seems that in the fall of 1906 the boys at the local high school organized a football team. There were 14 players on the Yates Center team who proceeded to challenge the team at LeRoy High. The trip to LeRoy by train, the game while there, and the return trip took all day and into the late of night. John, age 17, was one of the 14 to make that trip. The game of football in 1906 was not the game of football in 1987. Players had no safety helmets, no padded pants, no shoulder pads, no face guards and no special shoes. When a man was tackled, he went down and was out — sometimes unconscious or with a broken bone or two. Rough is a mild description of football in 1906.

On January 1, 1915, at Yates Center, John enlisted in the Kansas national guard which at first met in the city park. His Honorable Discharge on June 28, 1919 listed his civilian occupation as "clerk". It also said John had brown eyes, brown hair, fair complexion, and was 5 feet 10½ inches tall. But what did he do in the army between 1915 and 1919? A little history is appropriate at this point which helps to answer this question.

Prior to 1915, the Mexican government was in a shambles. The old order had been swept out by revolutionists and leaders of the revolution were struggling to see which one was to become the new president of the republic. On October 19, 1915 the five Latin-American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, and Uruguay) followed by the United States, diplomatically recognized Carranza as president of Mexico. At least Carranza controlled Mexico City, the capital. Fighting and raids on towns and villages still raged around the country, however.

## GREENUP'S SON — JOHN FRANKLIN ALLEN (CONT.)

Following the recognition of Carranza, President Woodrow Wilson in Washington, D.C. proclaimed an embargo on shipment of arms against all groups in Mexico but Carranza's. Carranza's new government was plagued by shortage of money and military uprisings, the most dangerous of which were lead by Pancho Villa. This shrewd military experienced Indian maintained his headquarters in his native state of Chihuahua which abutted the U.S. states of New Mexico and Texas. Pancho Villa now embarked on a plan to deliberately provoke the U.S. into declaring war on Mexico. He could then act out the role as national hero defending the land of Mexico and thereby get recognition enough to aid him in his struggle to regain power, if not the Mexican presidency.

Villa's initial strike came on January 10, 1916. A group of American engineers, whose safety had been assured by Carranza, sought to reopen a mine in northern Mexico. Down swooped Villa and his men, guns blazing and swords in hand. Sixteen Americans were killed at Santa Ysabel, Sonora. Hardly had the news of this massacre cooled in the American press when a second and more serious incident perpetuated by Villa lit up public opinion in both nations. The real threat of war between Mexico and the U.S. appeared like a cloud on the horizon.

On March 9, 1916 about 400 of Pancho Villa's raiders crossed the border into Columbus, New Mexico. In broad daylight they shot down everyone in sight and disappeared into the hills of Chihuahua. American press headlines, seemingly speaking the sentiment of all Americans, screamed for punishment. President Wilson had to do something. He promised that troops would be sent into Mexico to capture Villa and his bandits who were terrorizing the American border zone. In the meantime, Villa kept the situation inflamed by extending his terroristic raids into Texas.

On March 16, 1916 General John J. Pershing led 6,000 troops onto Mexican soil. This military venture has been dubbed historically as the Punitive Expedition. Relations between Mexico and the U.S. were obviously strained. Carranza ordered Wilson to take his troops home. Instead, the Americans sent out a small scouting unit to the east. Mexican troops opened fire at Carrizal killing 12 American soldiers and capturing 23. Wilson immediately demanded the release of the prisoners. To emphasize his seriousness to the order, he mobilized the entire U.S. National Guard and formally incorporated it into the regular army.

## GREENUP'S SON — JOHN FRANKLIN ALLEN (CONT.)

John Franklin Allen, a national guardsman, was called to active duty in Company L, First Kansas Infantry Regiment on June 19, 1916. Upon arrival at Fort Riley, Kansas, on Friday, June 23, the First Infantry had 51 officers and 1,021 men. There was to be no real action for these men, however. According to Thomas E. Wilgus, Reference Specialist for the Library of Congress, no National Guard organizations crossed the boundary into Mexico, although two regiments, the 1st New Mexico infantry and the 2nd Massachusetts infantry, were assigned to the Punitive Expedition and were carried on its station list. They were kept at Columbus, New Mexico to provide guards and local security for the base. All other guardsmen spent their time in hikes, drills and exercises.

By the 30th of October, 1916, men of the First infantry and John F. Allen had returned from Texas and were mustered out. Fortunately, John was not involved in the train derailment of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway near Emporia, Kansas. It seems that a horse and buggy were thrown from the track without injury to anyone except the horse being killed. Three baggage cars and a tender went off the tracks, however. But at least John F. was on his way home after what seemed an eternal delay in Emporia.

In his home town of Yates Center flags and bunting floated on main streets. Business practically came to a halt. Schools were ready to dismiss when the train arrived. Crowds had gathered. The band was out. But a son's "welcome home" was not to be as planned because of the train's delay.

Just a little footnote to this historical episode is in order. Poncho Villa was never captured by U.S. troops. He continued to be popular with the peons and set himself, by his use of irregular fighting tactics, among the ranks of the immortals of guerrilla warfare. By February 5, 1917 the last of the U.S. punitive expeditionary forces quietly left Mexico. General Pershing was recalled and sent to fight the Germans in World War I. Cost of the Punitive Expedition: \$130,000,000 — a very large sum of money in 1916.

John F. was now Sergeant, having been promoted on September 15, 1916. Lastly, in less than a year Company L was again to be called into service as the war with Germany progressed. The Discharge Certificate filed at the Woodson County Courthouse indicates that on June 28, 1919, Sgt. Allen was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army and received mustering out pay of \$145.97 plus a bonus of \$60.00. On August 1, 1923, John received \$693.00 from the Kansas Veterans Compensation Board. Later he also became a member of the American Legion Post in Yates Center.

## GREENUP'S SON — JOHN FRANKLIN ALLEN (CONT.)

Shortly after discharge from the army in 1919, John married Mamie Eva Starkebaum. Mamie had been born May 2, 1897 in Lafayette County, Missouri. She was to die later, on September 30, 1981, at the age of 84. For 20 years she served as treasurer of the Board of Education and was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Her energy seemed unlimited; her cheerfulness was everywhere; her desire for a lively talk was always clearly evident. She was a member of the Eastern Star, her husband being a Mason.

Dorothy Starkebaum, Mamie's sister-in-law, said that when John and an old friend retired each Sunday afternoon to play chess at John's house there was complete silence in "that room." Mamie listening at the door couldn't hear a word spoken. This made her jealous, for she regarded John's time as only hers. She was very possessive.

Always interested in county history, Mamie became an active member of the Woodson County Historical Society. She and John made their home at 105 East Mary Street, a good looking house that still stands and is currently occupied. After her death a memorial was established in her name at the First Presbyterian Church.

On June 12, 1876, the first post office was established at Yates Center with the first postmaster as Thomas W. Wilson. Since it's establishment the post office shifted it's location around the town's courthouse square. On August 8, 1923, John F. was appointed postmaster. His appointment lasted until April 24, 1936. Shortly after this, he became an accountant and attained status of Certified Public Accountant. He remained in this business until he retired.

Several years before his death on April 13, 1962, he had developed heart trouble. It is not surprising then that his death certificate shows the cause being "coronary artery sclerosis with acute anterior infarction." He lived 72 years, 3 months and 21 days. That is certainly a much longer time than that enjoyed by his father, Greenup J. Allen (1843 - 1903) and his mother Florence Irene Powell Allen (1861 - 1904) who had been plagued by consumption and condemned to any early death. John and Mamie had no children. He was the last of our Allen's to live in Yates Center.

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**REMINDER:** The hard bound volumes 19 - 20 are in and can be picked up at the Chamber Office or from Lester.

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## MEMORIAL ROAD

At the corner of Bell and North Main Streets in Yates Center is an angled granite marker facing southeast. The bronze plaque attached to the face bears this legend:

Memorial Road  
Women's Federation of Clubs  
1928

This gray granite marker which looks like a tombstone is erected at the start of a sidewalk which leads to the Yates Center cemetery, a place a mile northeast of town surrounded by massive cedar trees.

Gussia Schindler, who resides at Gridley, Kansas, has pleasant memories of how the cemetery was the pride and joy of Yates Center. She remembered how school children used to walk out there on Sunday afternoons, how there were family gatherings and picnics at the burial ground.

Gussia did research, scanning microfilm of the Yates Center papers, talking to old timers remembering. An article entitled "Sidewalk by the Mile", written by Gussia Schindler appeared in the November issue of *Kanshistique*, a monthly magazine of Kansas History and antiques.

James J. Fisher wrote about this memory lane in the *Kansas City Times*, January 15, 1987. He referred to what Gussia found out in her research. He wrote that the memorial road meant more than a walkway to the cemetery. It represents a slower time, another way of life, a time where cemeteries and the passing of a loved one were part of life's fabric.

There were few that had cars in the 1920's. People walked and it was a natural thing on Sundays to walk to the cemetery. Every Memorial Day, known as Decoration Day there would be a stream of people walking to the cemetery, the children gathered flowers along the way to decorate the graves.

People, especially the older ones found the road to the cemetery made for hard walking and as James J. Fisher wrote: "The few newfangled motor cars, speeding by the walkers, billowed dust or sprayed mud."

Gussia wrote that it was the women who began to envision a sidewalk to the cemetery, especially after the men on the town council pooh-poohed the whole idea.

It took the ladies about a year to raise the money. It was done in a variety of ways. Gussia tells of how tin cans were put in all the stores around town with a sign saying, "a penny an inch", meaning one cent would pay for one inch of pavement.

## MEMORIAL ROAD (CONT.)

The project was started in 1927 and it was finished by Memorial Day, 1928, at a cost of \$1,854.25.

Another generation has grown up with little or no knowledge of the sidewalk that was built along a fence row on two sides of a pasture and on into the cemetery, ending at the gazebo which is in the center of the cemetery.

Gussia said, "Build it to-day, hardly, there would be all sorts of paper work and/or federal land grants." It took the old timers to see something that needed to be done and do it.

The sidewalk is still in good condition, considering that it is over 60 years old.

Under the marker at the corner of Bell and Main Streets, is a copper box containing the date about the sidewalk and the names of all the clubs contributing to the project.



End of the sidewalk in front of the gazebo.



A stretch of the sidewalk.

## NOVEMBER 1987

The president of the Yates Center Golf Assoc., asked me to write about the "beginnings" of the golf course in it's present location on city lands in the south water reservoir area.

When World War II ended and service men returned home, some of them along with others who had not been in the service expressed an interest in having a course in the Yates Center area. In the 1920's and 30's there was a course on the then W.C. Mills property west of town along the highway, but when it ceased to be Mills property, the golf course was lost. Sometime between this period and the end of World War II some agreement apparently was made with the city and a golf course had been partially laid out on the reservoir area land.

A number of "interested" golfers met with the city council early in 1946 and permission was obtained to use the land for golf use. An association was formed and a revised "lay out" of the course was made. Somehow or another, by persuasion or by volunteering, Bob Gordy and Glenn Shaw undertook the task of furnishing the equipment and doing the mowing. They were to get the fees from memberships, and green fees plus any donations by the city to keep the picnic areas mowed in exchange for their expenses incurred. The two also agreed to turn over all equipment, when (or if) they ever recovered what had been spent, to the association.

A Farmall Cub tractor was purchased from Swope (at cost, I believe) and a used set of five (5) fairway reel type mowers from an equipment firm in Kansas City. A sickle bar was on the tractor for mowing the picnic area and the rough. The big disadvantage was keeping the fairway mowers sharp, since special equipment is necessary to sharpen this type of mower. Fairly often they had to be hauled to Iola for sharpening.

The two "maintenance" people hauled dirt from the water's edge to the "tee off" area, and eventually wore out a used trailer by overloading and hauling dirt. The "greens" which are sand, were made for the most part by the golfers who levelled, mixed sand and oil and spread the sand. There was also a lot of volunteer help in the removal of rocks from the fairways so the mowers could be used.

There was a good deal of enthusiasm back in the late '40's. There was a scotch foursome at least once a week, and thus the wives or girl friends took a keen interest. Many of the golfers went to surrounding towns for tournaments since those towns also had courses with "sand" greens. For those

## NOVEMBER 1987 (CONT.)

who wonder what scotch foursome means, it is a couple using just one ball and the players alternate hitting it. Afterwards, they enjoyed a picnic. (At least that is the way they did it here.)

After about 3 or 4 years, all the equipment expense had been recovered along with what had been spent for gasoline, oil, repairs, etc., and ownership of the equipment was turned over to the association.

Glenn Shaw, reporter

### THE INCORPORATION of the CITY OF YATES CENTER WOODSON COUNTY, KANSAS

\* \* \* \*

#### PETITION

The undersigned, electors of the town of Yates Center, Kansas, respectfully represent to the Honorable L. Stillwell, Judge of the 7th Judicial District, in and for Woodson County, Kansas, that the town of Yates Center in said county contains 800 population. That its meets and bounds are as follows, to-wit; Commencing at the north-west corner of the south-west quarter of section 11, township 25 south of Range 15 east; thence east 1,349 feet, thence north 165 feet, thence east 264 feet, thence south 165 feet, thence east to the north-east corner of the north-west quarter of the south-east quarter of section 11; thence south to the south-east corner of the west half of the north-east quarter of section 14, township 25, Range 15; thence west to the south-west corner of north-west quarter of said section 14, thence north to the place of beginning. And we respectfully ask that said town be incorporated as a city of the third class:

Signed: W. H. Slavens, R. A. Brown, H. A. Magerman, J. B. Savidge, Issac Wood, W. B. Walker, Geo. C. Hamilton, J. H. Wilson, Ed Brown, Tom Cotter, S. Wright, Wesley Carroll, J. P. Nichols, W. F. Barrett, S. A. Kay, W. E. Hogueland, A. Stewart, W. T. Reed, F. G. Lang, R. Seivert, G. W. Miller, Chas. A. Jones, T. W. Wilson, J. Cutright, J. H. Ream, J. N. Shannon, Rev. James Wilson, J. D. Gay, I. W. Daniels, J. A. Donnerberg, Geo. H. Phillips, T. J. Blackman, John Ault, Johnathan Blevins, H. S. Trueblood, M. E. Wilson, W. H. Harmon, M. E. Whitehead, B. F.

## PETITION (CONT.)

Clayton, G. R. Stephenson, M. L. Stutz, Albert H. Nunn, Wm. Bramhall, R. H. Trueblood, A. M. Hinkle, A. McDaniel, Thomas Powell, Geo. E. Hohnson, J. E. Pickett, H. Lyman, T. H. Lamborn, J. A. McRay, F. W. Baker, A. F. Long, J. W. Depew, Henry Hildebrand, Samuel Bishop, O. J. Skinner, Geo. Spar, C. C. Mills, J. W. Bartleett, T. McSpiritt, Geo. W. Stewart, J. W. Elliott, N. F. Follett, W. B. Hogueland, D. M. Ray, F. A. Hoover, Alfred VanSlyke, Chas. Harris, Ed G. Meed, Phillip Hinkle, A. A. Wille, G. H. Wright, H. C. Hurt, I. N. Hollowary, W. E. Morian, Rev. J. C. Hull, T. B. Reed, Henry Naylor, W. W. Chance, Julius Schmidt, W. H. Thurber, Wm. Milson, A. D. Bell, Millard Long, G. A. Brush, Wm. Wamsley, Joseph Garlick, P.S. Kester, M. F. Dryden, I. N. Templin, George Winn, C. Gibson, J. W. Vaughn, C. N. Warnner, Joseph Webb, W. Austin, I. M. Jewitt, A. F. Palmer, F. E. Kennedy, R. S. Walker, John Bishop, H. T. Chellis, C. K. Corryell, N. B. Shirley, Geo. W. Fry, Julius Von Mott, W. H. Van Erek, Dan Cannady, J. M. Norris, C. F. Gates, Allen Wood, W. Carney, R. L. Daniels, J. A. Taylor, E. E. Grossman, W. G. Graham, C. L. Winters, J. N. Rarden, W. R. Burd, H. S. Burd, Geo. E. Faler, A. B. Wagoner, Wm. Oddy, H. H. Winter, Geo. M. Bell, Swan Johnson, M. E. Kellenberger, I. S. Jones, H. S. Johnson, S. J. Bacon, Jno. F. Patterson, Jacob Hinkle, W. A. Bailey, James Keeney, W. Clark, N. H. Letts, Jay Ault, Mrs. G. J. Butler, A. H. Ohler, Fred Stewart, J. M. Gray, J. A. Irons, B. Himrod, M. C. Smith, C. E. Wood, Milton Hanna, Ed Fry, J. W. McConnell, C. A. Stutz, Geo. Wille, J. A. Spader, Thomas Walker, Claus Clausen, J. P. Ford.

8th day of March, 1884.

Mo. Pacific Depot and Van Noy Hotel, Yates Center, Kansas.





## CHARTER MEMBERS

Alma Abbott	Vonda Herder	Perry Rhea
* A. D. Adams	Clarence	* W. J. Riley
* Iva Ashley	Henderson	Maurice Riley
Ruth Augustine	Keith Herring	Rose Mary Riley
* Walter Beine	Helen Herring	* Orrin C. Rose
* Maynie Beine	* Mrs. Charles	* Mrs. O.C. Rose
* Jeanette Beine	Hibbard	* J. E. Ross
* Walter Bowers	Mrs. Faye	Marie Ross
Helen Bowers	Hibbard	* Pearl Smith
* Ray F. Bulter		* Fannie Shurtleff
Vida Cannady	* Mrs. Avis Ireland	Mary Ann Smith
Paul Cannady		* J. C. Street
* Clarissa S.	* Frank Johnson	* Alice Weide
Cantrell	Christine Kramer	Stockebrand
* Leo Collins	Henry C. Kipp	* Ray V. Stoll
Agnes Collins	Jane Kipp	* Neva Stoll
* Jane Cooper	Elmer F.	Lette M. Streator
* Flossie Curtis	Krueger	Burris Surber
	* Leona Krueger	* Maudie Surber
* Mrs. Charles	Richard F.	
Daniel	Krueger	* Cecil Tannahill
Mrs. Ruth Elder	Karen Krueger	* Mrs. Cecil
* Margie		Tannahill
Englebrecht	* Pearl Cantrell	* Mrs. O.B. Trusler
	Laidlaw	* Harold Trusler
Emma Shirley	* Alice Lamb	Madge Butler
Frankhauser	J. W. Linde	Walters
	Elizabeth	Ida Webb
Clarie Giltner	Hamilton Linde	* Mae Harding
Ruth Toedman		Weide
Ginger	* Russell Manske	* Merle E. Weide
Lester Harding	Ella Manske	* Rose Wille
Edith E. Harding	Ferree	Virgil Winfrey
Mary Hare	Albert Mann	Iris Degler
* John Hase	Katherine Martin	Winfrey
Mrs. Ira	Georgia	* Marie Wix
Hassenflug	McConnell	* H. A. Wrampe
* Elsie E.	* Leland Morris	Milton Wrampe
Hassenflug	Virginia Morris	Marcella
Ira Hassenflug	* Neva Mulsow	Wrampe
Charles E.		* Samuel Wyble
Hampton	* Lou A. Paske	Agnes Wyble
Arthur (Bud)	* Mrs. P. C.	
Herder	Peterson	* Deceased

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